

## UUP Executive Committee Meeting Minutes August 17, 2011

**Attendees:** P. Abraham, B. Benjamin, L. Bickmore, E. Briere, J. Collins, S. D'Alessandro, R. Friedman, T. Hoey, C. Jewell, S. Knapp, S. Kudzin, D. LaComb, D. LaFond, J. Large, M. Manjak, C. Merbler, A. Olin, G. Petry, C. Quinn, R. See, M. Seidel, P. Stasi, I. Steen, E. Torgersen, B. Trachtenberg, E. Warnke, B. Weaver, B. Shadrick, K. Sprague, J. Harton, J. Hanifan, B. Bowles, K. Thompson-LaPerle

The meeting commenced at 12:25 pm.  
Introductions were made around the room.

- I. Approval of minutes from the 7/6/11 Executive Committee Meeting: Petry moved, Collins seconded. There was 1 correction made: on page 2, B2, Merbler and Seidel to attend; vote carries with 5 abstentions. Harton asked a question about when the minutes were sent out. Brief discussion.

### II. Reports

#### A. Officers

1. **President:** President Merbler went over her report lightly:
  1. Note the date of the fall General Membership Meeting, Wednesday, November 2, 2011.
  2. Negotiations are starting soon. Team to meet with the State on August 25<sup>th</sup>.
  3. Hoey moved and See seconded that we cover \$5 towards flu shots. Discussion. Vote carries with 3 abstentions.
  4. Congratulations to Mike Grosshandler and his wife on their new daughter!
  5. Merbler explained that being elected with even 1 vote makes someone an alternate delegate. She explained the responsibilities therein. Also, it is important that alternates attend DAs as observers; they do NOT have to stay at the Desmond. In addition, you are most welcome to attend Statewide Committee meetings at the DA. The DA is the policy-making body for UUP Statewide. Discussion. Merbler gave information about the election for Statewide VP for Professionals at the DA.
  6. Merbler reported on the death of Karl Scharl, a retiree member.
  7. Re: the Chancellor's plan for strategic campus alliances: Merbler has to attend a conference call today at 4 pm. She read a press release from the Chancellor. Things are happening quite quickly. Administrative changes and saving money. Rumors abound. Stay tuned to the Times Union.
  8. Merbler spoke briefly about IDAs.
  9. Applause for Eric Torgersen, who has agreed to take over as Chapter Webmaster for Knee during Knee's sabbatical beginning September 1. Our webpage has won an honorable mention for 2 years in a row. Eric will compare our page with that of other chapters; maybe we can win a higher award.

10. The Department Reps meeting will be Tuesday, September 13, 2011, from 12-2.
11. Merbler stated that no minutes are taken at the Pre-DA meeting.

Add-ons

1. Keep Patrick Romain and his family in your prayers; his mother is ill.
  2. Keep David Lewis and his family in your prayers; his mother has passed.
  3. Paul Stasi and his wife welcomed Violet Ruth; applause. Will bring photos next meeting.
2. **Vice President for Academics:** Collins: Gave an update on the developments in LLC and “contingent creep.” This will also be discussed at the Department Reps meeting on 9/13/11. Collins talked about the “69%” article. Continue to educate ourselves and our members about this issue. Collins proposed that all members of the Executive Committee have input into the Labor/Management Agenda. What do others think? Discussion. Seidel: Administration (Management) CANNOT retrench tenured faculty and keep Part-timers. Until Management defines the layoff unit, it’s hard to talk about retrenchments (in the abstract). Paul [Last name] feels this issue should be at the forefront of the Agenda. More discussion. Seidel is waiting and seeing to see if Administration/Management goes down the correct, legal path, or not. Benjamin asked if there is a timeline and did theater and classics folks also receive a letter? Seidel: the contract says, “Desirable to give tenured faculty a year’s notice and term appointments, 6 months.” So far, we haven’t heard from theater or classics people. LaFond: We should think of ways to reach out to LLC folks. Still more discussion. Merbler does not want to share the LLC letter to the entire membership; someone has leaked twisted information to the Times Union in the past. Stress levels are very high. Seidel said Seckerson can come in to talk at any time. More discussion. Merbler said, “Everyone, please be in solidarity!” Merbler explained “Follow-ups” on the Labor/Management Agenda. Collins urged us to read the prior minutes of Labor/Management meetings and bring issues to Executive Committee meetings. In this way, you can be a part of compiling the Labor/Management Agenda. No resolution is needed for this. Discussion as to prioritizing the Labor/Management Agenda. Petry said the Executive Committee should not micromanage the Chapter Officers. Collins: Use the tools that we have!
3. **Vice President for Professionals:** Abraham: I bring issues to the Executive Committee and Labor/Management that members tell me about. Thank you to Merbler and the Chapter for their support over the years. My absences have been important (family, health, business issues). I have been working on a case of delayed permanent appointment, and signed another member. I hope I can count on your support for Statewide VP for Professionals. If elected, Abraham can still retain his Chapter office. Applause! Merbler noted that Abraham is not the only candidate.

4. **Secretary:** Jewell: The minutes are up-to-date.
5. **Treasurer:** Olin: There are 2 documents in your packet or emailed to you. Totals are correct; 1 typo: #21, \$20 should be under #22, for cleaning. Olin attended treasurer's training in July. Merbler to meet with Olin next week regarding audit materials' submission.
6. **Part-Time Concerns Rep:** Hanifan: Hedberg's letter is now on computer; Statewide Retreat for Part-timers this past weekend; I am still PT co-chair; Amendment developments occurring vis-à-vis Robert's Rules. A subcommittee was therefore appointed. Hanifan wants time at the Pre-DA luncheon to talk about this.

## **B. Standing Committees**

1. **Solidarity:** Hoey reported on the Labor Day picnic; Wittner wants an endorsement and Hoey seconded, that this is worthwhile; the vote carries. NYStudentsRising.org to get students involved in the union movement; they want donation and endorsement, \$100, after the Cook Park event, in Washington Park; seconded by Barry [Last name]; UUP members also invited to student picnic; vote carries with 1 abstention. As to the Verizon strike, there will be a NYSUT march on 8/19/11; need volunteers for 1 hour shifts (15 people per hour); Merbler will inform the membership. Protest peacefully. Hoey to PDF the information to Merbler, who will send it to Eric for the website. Briere asked if the Solidarity Committee could support Haitian University students, etc. Collins suggested bringing this to UUP Statewide Solidarity Committee (ahead of the DA, to Smith). Discussion. Abraham suggested that Hanifan pass the hat at the DA. More discussion.
2. **Newsletter:** Paul for Manjak: Want to do printed issues and online issues. Talk more about it at the next Executive Committee meeting. Discussion.

## **C. Ad Hoc Committees**

1. **Tornado:** Olin: donations are coming in, positive. Closing date is 9/9/11 for donations. CSEA gave \$300 today; G&W will assume mailing costs; Kelly looking at trucking costs. Merbler will re-send President's blast email at start of semester. Will also be a blast email to CSEA people.

## **III. Old Business: None**

## **IV. New Business**

1. Merbler: We may need to talk/think about calendaring committee reports to be submitted to Kelly to go out in packets ahead of time. Merbler proposes that we come up with such a plan; Bret seconded. This does not preclude oral reports at meetings. Collins: Be as concise as possible. Vote carries, with 1 abstention.

2. Jewell moved to approve funds in the amount of \$100 to cover Chapter Assistant's parking fee for Sept.2011-Aug.2012. Collins seconded (Barry thirded). Moved and seconded for additional 60 cents. Vote carries.
3. Pens? Kelly will have an e\$timate for the 9/11 meeting. Merbler: At the beginning of the fiscal year, there will be a number of motions to pay for stuff during the year, so be ready to vote!  
The meeting ended at 2:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol H. Jewell,  
Secretary